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Second Committee
Agenda item 53 (e)
Sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Sudan:* draft resolution

United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010-2020)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/211 of 23 December 2003, in which it declared 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

Recalling also its resolution 62/195 of 19 December 2007, in which it decided to declare the decade 2010-2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, based on the recommendation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its twenty-fourth session,[1]

Recalling further its resolutions 61/202 of 20 December 2006, 62/193 of 19 December 2007, 63/218 of 19 December 2008 and other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Deeply concerned about the worsening situation of desertification in all regions, particularly in Africa, and its far-reaching implications for the achievement

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25), annex I, decision 24/14; see also General Assembly resolution 61/185 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

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of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the eradication of poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability,

Responding to the call of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa at its ninth session for the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification,[3]

Determined to build upon the momentum and to boost the spirit of international solidarity generated by the designation of 2006 as the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

Committed to raising the awareness of desertification, land degradation and drought at all levels,

1. *Recalls* its decision to declare the decade 2010-2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification;

2. *Designates* the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa as the focal point of the Decade, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant bodies of the United Nations, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

3. *Invites* all Member States to periodically commemorate the Decade by arranging appropriate activities;

4. *Encourages* Members States and multilateral agencies in a position to do so to support the secretariat of the Convention financially and technically, with a view to supporting special initiatives in observance of the Decade and the goal of enhancing the implementation of the Convention and its ten-year strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018);

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the status of the implementation of the present resolution.

[3] See ICCD/COP(9)/15.